

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 096898 TOSEC 040059
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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM PA/PRESS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: EVENING PRESS SUMMARY

NO. 4

WIRES

AP -- SCHWEID FROM DAR ES SALAAM

LEAD: "RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS TOLD SECRETARY OF STATE
CYRUS R. VANCE TODAY THEY TENTATIVELY ACCEPT THE IDEA OF A
U.N. PEACEKEEPING FORCE AND A BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER
DURING A TRANSITION TO BLACK MAJORITY RULE, A U.S. OFFICIAL
REPORTED.

OTHER POINTS:

-- DIFFERENCES STILL REMAIN.
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PAGE 02 STATE 096898 TOSEC 040059

-- U.S. DIPLOMATS BELIEVE THAT THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO CONVEN-
ING A PEACE CONFERENCE OF ALL FACTIONS WILL BE RHODESIAN
PRIME MINISTER IAN SMITH AND HIS DEMANDS FOR SPECIAL PRO-
TECTIONS FOR THE WHITE MINORITY.

REUTERS -- ROY GUTMAN FROM DAR ES SALAAM

LEAD: "LEADERS OF THE FOREIGN-BASED PATRIOTIC FRONT TODAY EXPRESSED CONDITIONAL WILLINGNESS TO ATTEND AN ALL-PARTY RHODESIA CONFERENCE WITH WHITE MINORITY PREMIER IAN SMITH."

OTHER POINTS:

-- MUGABE AND NKOMO SAID SMITH AND THE MODERATE BLACK NATIONALIST LEADERS WOULD HAVE TO ATTEND SUCH TALKS AS INDIVIDUALS.

-- MUGABE SAID NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE WITH UK BUT OTHER PARTIES COULD COME IN "AS LONG AS THEY COME IN WITH THE INTENTION OF PARTICIPATING ON THE BASIS OF ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS AND NOT ON THE BASIS OF THEIR INIQUITOUS AGREEMENT."

-- A BLACK SPOKESMAN IN SALISBURY ALREADY HAS REJECTED THE IDEA THAT THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT WOULD TALK WITH THE ZAMBIA- AND MOZAMBIQUE-BASED GROUPS, UNLESS THE GUERRILLA LEADERS WANTED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE EXISTING SETTLEMENT.

-- PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS HAVE NOT YET ACCEPTED THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN, BUT BRITISH AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID THEY RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM LEADERS IN FRONT-LINE STATES THAT THIS ACCEPTANCE, AT LEAST IN PRINCIPLE, WOULD COME DURING THE TALKS HERE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 096898 TOSEC 040059

-- ON THE QUESTION OF THE PROPOSED BRITISH COMMISSIONER'S POWERS, U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THE PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS SHIFTED FROM TOTAL OPPOSITION AND WERE NOW WILLING TO GRANT LORD CARVER POWER AND AUTHORITY. BUT THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT ON THE DETAILS.

-- OFFICIALS SAID THE DISCUSSIONS WERE FRANK AND THERE WAS WHAT THEY CALLED SOME SPARRING.

-- DIPLOMATIC SOURCES DID NOT DISGUISE THEIR CONCERN THAT FAILURE OF THE DAR ES SALAAM INITIATIVE COULD HASTEN CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN RHODESIA.

UPI - ANDERSON FROM DAR ES SALAAM

LEAD: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE AND BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY DR. DAVID OWEN RAN INTO DEEP DISAGREEMENTS FRIDAY WITH RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS ON HOW TO END THE WAR IN RHODESIA."

OTHER POINTS:

-- VANCE AND OWEN ENDED FOUR HOURS OF TALKS WITH MUGABE AND NKOMO WITH LITTLE PROGRESS MADE TOWARD WINNING SUPPORT FOR THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN.

-- ONE AMERICAN OFFICIAL DESCRIBED THE FINAL TWO-HOUR SESSION AS A "CONTINUATION OF THE SPARRING MATCH WE HAD EARLIER."

-- HODDING CARTER SAID: "WE ARE DISCUSSING FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS."

-- AN AMERICAN OFFICIAL SAID THE QUESTIONS ARE SO BASIC THE FOUR SIDES HAVE NOT EVEN BEGUN TO DISCUSS THE TECHNICAL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 096898 TOSEC 040059

ISSUES OF WHETHER THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WILL ATTEND ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE.

-- VANCE TOLD REPORTERS THE FIRST SESSION OF TALKS "HAD BEEN VERY SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS."

-- REFLECTING THE STILL WIDE DIFFERENCES, THE PARTIES SCHEDULED AN UNEXPECTED LATE EVENING SESSION TO TRY TO IRON OUT DIFFERENCES.

-- THERE APPEARED TO BE LITTLE PROGRESS ON TWO MAJOR ISSUES:

-- THE GUERRILLAS DISLIKE OF THE SWEEPING POWERS THE BRITISH COMMISSIONER-DESIGNATE WOULD ENJOY DURING A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD.

-- THEIR OBJECTION TO THE PRESENCE OF A U.N. PEACE-KEEPING FORCE DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

-- THE SOMBER MOOD OF ALL PARTIES AFTER THE FIRST ROUND OF TALKS WAS IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE OPTIMISM BEFORE THE CONFERENCE OPENED WHEN PARTICIPANTS SAID THE MEETING WOULD BE A MERE FORMALITY AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT LEADERS ALREADY HAD AGREED TO ACCEPT ALL THE MAJOR POINTS OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

NETWORKS

NBC -- VALERIANI FROM DAR ES SALAAM

VALERIANI REPORTS FIRST SESSION WITH MUGABE/NKOMO AND FRONT LINE LEADERS AND COMMENTS: "VANCE BELIEVES THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 05 STATE 096898 TOSEC 040059

UNLESS THE GUERRILLA FORCES ARE INCLUDED IN THE TRANSITION TO BLACK MAJORITY RULE, THEN RHODESIA IS HEADED FOR A CIVIL WAR WHICH WOULD PROBABLY DRAW IN THE RUSSIANS AND THE CUBANS. VANCE AND OWEN ARE TRYING TO PREVENT THAT FROM

HAPPENING. WHEN VANCE WAS IN NIGERIA WITH PRESIDENT CARTER A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO, HE WAS TOLD THAT THE AFRICAN NATIONS IN THIS AREA COULD DELIVER THE RHODESIAN GUERRILLAS TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE IF THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN COULD DO LIKEWISE WITH THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT IN RHODESIA. AND SO THIS MISSION WAS QUICKLY ARRANGED AS A KIND OF A LAST DITCH EFFORT TO BRING PEACE AS WELL AS BLACK MAJORITY RULE TO RHODESIA."

CBS -- ANCHORMAN CRONKITE

"U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE AND BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN CONFERRED WITH RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS IN TANZANIA TODAY. THEY ARE TRYING TO HEAD OFF ACTIVE COMMUNIST MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE RHODESIA CONFLICT. U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THAT THE GUERRILLA LEADERS HAVE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO A KEY PROPOSAL IN THE BRITISH-AMERICAN PEACE PLAN FOR RHODESIA. THAT'S FOR A U.N. PEACE-KEEPING FORCE TO HELP SUPERVISE ELECTIONS LEADING TO BLACK MAJORITY RULE. THE OFFICIALS ALSO SAID THE GUERRILLA LEADERS APPEAR TO HAVE DROPPED THEIR DEMAND TO DICTATE THE AGENDA FOR PEACE TALKS. BUT IN RHODESIA THE DOMESTICALLY-NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT PLAN FOR BLACK MAJORITY RULE MOVED AHEAD WITH THE SWEARING-IN OF NINE BLACKS AS CO-MINISTERS IN THE NEW TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. THERE WAS NO VISIBLE SUPPORT FOR THE BRITISH-AMERICAN PEACE PLAN THERE. NEVERTHELESS, VANCE IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN RHODESIA THIS WEEKEND...AND HIS TRIP IS A RACE AGAINST TIME."

ABC -- ANCHORWOMAN BARBARA WALTERS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 096898 TOSEC 040059

"SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE IS IN TANZANIA TODAY FOR TALKS WITH RHODESIAN GUERRILLA LEADERS. VANCE IS TRYING TO ARRANGE A CONFERENCE OF ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE RHODESIAN DISPUTE. BUT ABC'S BARRY DUNSMORE, WHO IS TRAVELLING WITH VANCE, REPORTS THAT THERE IS LITTLE OPTIMISM THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE." CHRISTOPHER

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